



LEGALLY SPEAKING

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Is Your Firm Ready for E-Filing?

If you are thinking of making the jump from paper to electronic format, these four articles will help in your transition.

"The Six Biggest Mistakes Law Firms Make When They Upgrade Technology"

according to Ben Schorr are:

- They don't have a goal.
- They don't talk to their users.
- They don't do their home work.
- They don't document everything.
- They skimp on training.
- They don't follow-up.

Even though the article was written in 1998, its content is vital for the smooth integration of new technology into the workplace and is available on-line at <http://www.llrx.com/features/upgrade.htm>

The Fifth Appellate Judicial District of Ohio allows e-filing.¹ The United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

requires attorneys to e-file all social security reviews using PDF format² and strongly encourages e-filing in all other cases.³

PDF files can be created and converted with the software program Adobe Acrobat, and its manufacturer, Adobe, is offering it at a discounted price to bar members through June 30. Just call 888-502-5275 and give the operator your bar membership ID to receive the discount. For more information go to <http://www.lawtechnology.org/site-tation/April2001.html>.

To learn how Acrobat is being used, read "How an E-Filing Experience Led to Interactive Briefs" by Joel B. Rothman at <http://www.infojump.com/cat/Law/438-out.html?pub,bottom> and "E-Filing: Changing the Rules and the Work Flow" by Christy Hubbard at <http://www.infojump.com/cat/Law/438-out.html?pub,bottom>. Both are from the April 200 issue of Law Practice Management.

¹ Fifth Appellate Judicial District of Ohio Local Rules. 1 July 1999. Fifth Appellate Judicial District of Ohio. 25 May 2001. <<http://www.fifthdist.org/rules1.htm>>

² Electronic Case Filing. 25 April 2001. United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. 25 May 2001. <http://www.ohnd.uscourts.gov/Electronic_Filing/electronic_filing.html>

³ New Electronic Case Management System. United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. 25 May 2001. <http://www.ohnd.uscourts.gov/Electronic_Filing/CMECF_Notice/cmecf_notice.html>



Legally Speaking Is Now Available On-line!

No more typing long web addresses, just go to <http://www.starklawlibrary.org>.

Inundated with Offers for Legal Research Services?

Read Susan B. Hersch's article, "Sorting out the Good, the Bad and the Ugly" at <http://www.llrx.com/features/inundate.htm>.



Congratulations to the Area's Newest Members of the Ohio Bar!

The oath of office was administered to the following five Stark County and 25 Summit County candidates, during a special public session of the Supreme Court on May 21, 2001, at 2:00 pm.

New bar members from Stark County include: Jennifer L. Bergert, Catherine S. Lowman, Douglas A. Milhoam, Meredith E. Palmer, and Suzanne L. Slowey

New bar members from Summit County include: Thomas M. Bauer Jr., Christopher P. Bray, Tanya M. Brelish, Ronald L.



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(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Cable Jr., Heaven A. DiMartino, Felicia Easter, Donald M. Gallick, Michelle M. Gerred, Deena M. Giordano, Amy O. Goodman, Lidia V. Hamm, Bradley J. Hewitt, Thomas C. Hogan, John D. Lockhart, Jeffrey J. Manning, Michael S. McGraw, James E. Oehlenschlager, Angela K. Poth-Wypasek, Lawrence J. Roach, Michael F. Rozmajzl, Daniel J. Schlue, Cindy A. Semmelroth, Jane E. Truax, Katherine A. Wilson, and Jeremiah C. Young.

Planning on Going Solo?

Lawyers Weekly USA has two good articles to get you going! First of all, you are going to need state-of-the-art technology to be competitive. Michael M. Bowden provides sound information on a not too "techie" level in "Technology for the New Solo" at <<http://www.lawyersweekly.com/nlsgs12.cfm>>. Next, "The New Lawyer Survival Guide" at <<http://www.lawyersweekly.com/newlawr.cfm>> offers links to information on:

- Starting a Practice On Your Own
- Preparing For Trial
- Attracting Clients
- Using Technology to Win

Welcome! To Our Newest Member

Dora Wagner

Have you applied for membership?

Complete a **membership application** at the law library, or call us. We'll FAX or email you one. The **first year** of membership is **free!**

Need a Tidbit of General Information Quickly?

The next best thing to asking a librarian is the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN) web site at: <<http://www.oplin.lib.oh.us>>. On the left-hand side of this site is a list of categories.

Inside the "Reference" category of the site (towards the bottom of the list) are online dictionaries, almanacs, maps, directories, and encyclopedias, where the answer to a general question can be found quickly.

In the "Business Information" category, under "Business Reference," are business directory sites that contain business profiles, phone numbers, addresses and web sites.

The category "Government and Law," on the OPLIN homepage, provides links to the Ohio state page, U.S. government pages, and general law sites.

Most useful of all may be the "Research Databases" category, which includes EBSCO-host, a service that contains full text articles from more than 1,800 magazines (including some legal journals) and newspapers. To access the research databases, you must enter the number from a valid library card from a participating Ohio library. (Massillon, North Canton, Stark County District, and Akron-Summit County are all participating libraries.)

ALSO! American Law Sources On-line

Have you seen this web site <<http://www.lawsources.com/also/>>? It has many good links. In the "commentary" section



Meet Your Library Staff

"The roots of true achievement lie in the will to become the best that you can become."

-Harold Taylor

Time management expert and author of Procrastinate Less and Enjoy Life More and Making Time Work For You

Meet Roberta Ponting, she is our new bookkeeper. To help you get to know her better I have "borrowed" the concluding interview questions from A&E's "Inside the Actor's Studio". What is your favorite word? *Success*. What is your least favorite word? *Impossible*. What turns you on or excites you? *Accomplishing more in one day than I ever dreamed to be possible*. What turns you off? *People who say "I can't" without ever trying*. Other than your present position, what profession or occupation would you most like to try? *C.P.A.* What profession/occupation would you not like? *An undertaker!* What do you want to hear God say to you at the Pearly Gates? *"Welcome, thou good and faithful servant."*

there are law reviews, and in the "practice" section there are links to law dictionaries and forms, as well as a wealth of other information.

In the Federal Government "Commentary" is an unusual section called "United States Law Discussion Forums" which includes links to interactive discussion groups and listservs on law-related topics.

West Group Offers Online Continuing Ed

Go to <<http://westleadedcenter.com/home/home.jsp?page=home>>.

Slip Opinions

"There's no need to wait for the advance sheets to arrive in the mail, if a slip opinion listserver or notification service is available for the jurisdictions you follow."¹

Kathy Biehl's article for the ResearchRoundUp Column at LLRX, contains an extensive collection of both free and fee-based services that delivers opinions to you via e-mail. The URL is <<http://www.llrx.com/columns/roundup12.htm>>



Her article does not mention:

- **CaseStream® Alert** from Courtlink.com which provides e-mail alerts about case activity but has a complicated pricing system that you can examine at <<http://www.courtlink.com/home/services/index.html>>

- **AdvanceLinks** from VersusLaw is a similar weekly e-mail service. And although it is free, it only offers information in the following areas: Conflict of Interests, Death Penalty, DWI, Federal Sentencing, Immigration, Legal Malpractice, and Sanctions.

You can sign up for the service at <<http://www.versuslaw.com/products/AdvanceLinks.asp>>. When you register, note that there is a pre-checked box to accept ads for other VersusLaw products and services.²

¹ Biehl, Kathy. Slip Opinion Listservers-Updated." 15 May 2001. [Law Library Resource Xchange, LLC](http://www.llrx.com/columns/roundup12.htm#aspenlaw). 23 May 2001. <<http://www.llrx.com/columns/roundup12.htm#aspenlaw>>

² Calishain, Tara. LLRXBuzz: The Latest on Legal Research." 14 May 2001. [Law Library Resource Xchange, LLC](http://www.llrx.com/buzz/buzz56.htm). 22 May 2001. <<http://www.llrx.com/buzz/buzz56.htm>>

Evaluation of Corporate Information Gathering Services

There are now two major online products that can be used to gather information about businesses. Donna F. Cavallini assesses these competing West and Lexis products in her article, "One Stop Shopping for Company Data: A Comparison of CO-PROFILE and CompanyAnalyzer" located at <<http://www.llrx.com/extras/company.htm>>

Electronic Newsletters From BNA

BNA offers a fee-based service offering over 50 newsletter titles, several of which are supplemented with daily electronic newsletters and e-mail delivery for which there is no print equivalent. The advantages to subscribing to their service are speed and mode of delivery, searchability and content.

The newsletters provide breaking news and in-depth analysis, reprints of important primary source material, calendars of legislative and regulatory events, conferences and meetings.

A listing of products is located at <<http://web.bna.com>> and since BNA provides free trial subscriptions for Web and/or e-mail distribution, it may be worthwhile to evaluate whether the benefits justify the costs, which must be negotiated for site licenses, using IP recognition.

Source: O'Grady, Jean. "BNA Newsletters on the Web." Legal Reference Services Quarterly, Vol. 18, Number 2, at 110.

State Alcohol Laws Database

The University of Minnesota has put together a database of state alcohol laws at <<http://www.epi.umn.edu/enacted/>> .

The 21st Amendment gives individual states primary authority to regulate the distribution and use of alcoholic beverages. This site provides the actual texts of all recently enacted alcohol-related legislation from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

"Look for bills in a category by state, or access a single category in all states using the drop-down menus. Press "Show bills." Bills will be displayed in summary form. Full text of legislation is available by clicking on the session number displayed with each summary."¹

Categories include:

- Advertising
- Drinking & Driving
- Liability for Alcohol Related Injuries
- Prevention Programs
- Regulation of Alcohol Distribution
- Retail Sales
- Taxation
- Testing
- Treatment Programs
- Underage Possession & Consumption

¹ Alcohol Epidemiology Program. 2000. Regents of the University of Minnesota. 25 May 2001. <<http://www.epi.umn.edu/enacted/>>

**Don't Miss
"Info@starklawlibrary.org"
in the June Issue of The
Stark County Bar Journal!**

**Stark County Law Library
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CATALOG**

With telecommunication
software in place, use these
settings:

Phone number: 451-7379
Baud: 9600
Parity: N
Data bits: 8
Stop bits: 1
Duplex: F,
Login: dialin.
Password: dialin.
Terminal type: VT100

Press enter at main SIRSI screen.
Select Utility: Wsclient
Press BEGIN to start
Choose Library Catalog

For more detailed instructions,
please contact the law library at
(330) 451-7380.

Membership and Fees: Membership
is open to those who have passed the
Ohio State Bar Examination.
First year Bar member...Complimentary
2-5 years as member.....\$5.00
6+ years as member.....\$10.00
Membership checks must be separate
from other payments, please.

Circulation: Most print materials can
be checked out by members for two
weeks. Some items may be taken out
overnight only. You may renew items by
phone.

**Online Databases Available to
members:** Internet (including email),
WestLaw, LEXIS-NEXIS, OPEN, Grateful
Med. Technical support from the staff is
available. Charges vary.

Photocopies: \$.15 each, self-service.
Vending cards may be purchased in any
amount. Microfiche/film copies are also
\$.15 each. Printing from computers is
\$.15 per page.

FAX services for members: Send a fax
for \$.25 per page within our local calling
area, \$.50 outside. Receive free of
charge.

Reference services for members by
phone, fax and email are available.

Inter-library Loan services for
members are available. Charges vary.

Free Training for members on any
electronic service.



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"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world.
For, indeed, that's all who ever have."
-Margaret Mead